

Native Plants & Stormwater

Help Protect Your Water Supply

Lawn and garden activities can contaminate stormwater with pesticide, soil, and fertilizer runoff. Proper landscape management effectively reduces water use and contaminants that pollute our streams and eventually travel to Lake Erie. Through careful planning and design, environmentally-friendly landscape management can protect the environment with use of practical turf areas and mulches, appropriate plant selection, efficient water use, and maintenance.



Benefits to Landscaping with Native Plants:

- Native plants are more tolerant of regional weather conditions. Especially native prairie plants that are more drought tolerant.
- Native plants provide food and shelter for a variety of wildlife. Birds, butterflies, bees, and other beneficial pollinators all benefit from a diverse landscape. Many vulnerable species depend on specific plant types for survival.
- Native plants have deeper roots than turf grass, creating channels where stormwater can infiltrate and be absorbed by the plants rather than becoming runoff.
- Native plants are aesthetically pleasing and, with careful planning, can be incorporated into your yard without looking weedy.
- Dedicating yard space to native plants will decrease time, money, and resources needed for mowing, weeding, and watering.



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Selecting & Purchasing Native Plants:

Wild Ones: www.wildonesoakopenings.org

Provides list of plants native to this area, hosts & promotes local native plant sales, hosts educational webinars, and more.

Wood County Park District: www.wcparks.org

Hosts an annual native plant sale in the spring, provides educational programming, demonstrates native planting in all parks.

Toledo Zoo - Wild Toledo: www.toledozoo/wildtoledo.org

Hosts native plant sales, provides education on installing native plants, works with communities to establish native areas.

Clear Choices, Clean Water:

www.toledolakeerie.clearchoicescleanwater.org

Take the pledge to plant natives for clean water & explore the benefits.